

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DPW-01 DHA-02 SCS-03 SCA-01

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 AID-05 ORM-02 /089 R

DRAFTED BY EA/VLC:DCHARR/FMLC

APPROVED BY EA:RHMILLER

D/HA/PW:MR. SIEVERTS

EA/P:MR. SMITH (INFO)

SCS:MS ACKENBOM (INFO)

EA/TB:MR. GIBSON (DRAFT)

----- 082736

O R 302306Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CINCPAC

JCRC BARBERS PT HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 189700

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, VS

SUBJECT: DEPARTURE OF AMERICANS FROM VIETNAM - PRESS  
GUIDANCE

REFS: A) STATE 188493; B) GENEVA 6110; C) BANGKOK 21387

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE HERE. WE  
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BELIEVE EMBASSY BANGKOK SHOULD LIMIT COMMENT ALONG LINES

OF FIRST Q&A; REMAINING Q&A'S ARE MORE SUITABLE FOR USE  
HERE.

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THE RETURN  
OF AMERICAN CITIZENS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS FROM SAIGON TO  
BANGKOK?

ANSWER: WE WELCOME THE DEPARTURE OF THESE AMERICANS FROM  
VIETNAM. WE ALSO WANT TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION FOR THE  
EFFORTS OF THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MISSING PERSONS  
IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR REFUGEES, THE RED CROSS, AND OTHERS WHO HAVE CONTRI-  
BUTED TO THIS EFFORT.

QUESTION: DOES THIS LEAVE ANY AMERICAN CITIZENS IN VIETNAM?

ANSWER: WE HOPE THAT ANY AMERICANS REMAINING IN VIETNAM  
WILL ALSO BE ENABLED TO DEPART SOON.

QUESTION: DO YOU INTERPRET THIS AS BEING A GESTURE OF  
GOODWILL ON THE PART OF THE VIETNAMESE PERHAPS LEADING TO  
A START OF THE NORMALIZATION PROCESS.

ANSWER: I WOULDN'T WANT TO SPECULATE ON WHAT THIS MIGHT  
MEAN.

QUESTION: IN THE PAST, YOU HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT YOU HAVE  
BEEN CARRYING ON A CONTINUING EXCHANGE WITH THE VIETNAMESE.  
DOES THIS RETURN OF AMERICANS RESULT FROM THOSE CONTACTS?

ANSWER: NO.

QUESTION: IF NOT, HOW HAS THE USG SOUGHT THE RELEASE OF  
THESE AMERICANS?

ANSWER: WE HAVE HAD ACTIVE AND CONTINUING CONTACTS ON  
THE WELFARE AND DEPARTURE OF AMERICANS IN VIETNAM WITH  
VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHERS. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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